

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079988

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJECT:UN FIFTH COMMITTEE - UNIFIL FINANCING

REF: USUN 1098

1. WE UNDERSTAND U.S. MISSION WILL CONTINUE LOW-KEY
CONSULTATIONS, ESPECIALLY WITH WEO GROUP AND MEMBER OF
FIFTH COMMITTEE BUREAU RUDOLF SCHMIDT (FRG), IN EFFORT TO
ACHIEVE AGREEMENT ON UNIFIL ASSESSMENT SCALE PRIOR TO
APRIL 20-21 SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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2. SUGGEST FOLLOWING AS U.S. NEGOTIATING POSITION:

A. U.S. PREFERS UNIFIL BE FINANCED UNDER THE REGULAR SCALE
OF ASSESSMENTS. THAT POSITION WAS TAKEN BY CONGRESSMAN
JOHN BUCHANAN RE UNEF FINANCING IN 1973 WHEN HE WAS USREP
TO FIFTH COMMITTEE, BASED UPON RATIONALE THAT UN SCALE OF

ASSESSMENTS IS ALREADY A COMPROMISE AMONG THE VARYING POINTS OF VIEW HELD BY UN MEMBERS.

B. IN VIEW EXISTENCE OF SPECIAL UNEF/UNDOF SCALE, HOWEVER, U.S. POSITION FAVORING REGULAR SCALE UNLIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO MEMBERS OF FIFTH COMMITTEE. AS FURTHER COMPROMISE THEREFORE USG COULD ACCEPT THE SPECIAL PEACE AND SECURITY

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS USED FOR UNEF/UNDOF. FINALLY, USDEL SHOULD OPPOSE ANY FORMULA SETTING US CONTRIBUTION HIGHER THAN 30 PERCENT.

3. WE WILL ALSO NEED A RATHER INTENSIVE EFFORT IN NEW YORK TO ACHIEVE AN AGREEMENT ON COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCING UNIFIL. THE LEBANESE SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD ON THIS IN VIEW OF THE ARAB SUPPORT FOR THIS FORCE. TROOP CONTINGENT COUNTRIES MAY ALSO PLAY A ROLE IN DEVELOPING SUPPORT. SINCE THE SOVIETS WILL BE A KEY ELEMENT IN ACHIEVING THIS AGREEMENT, A MAJOR EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO BRING THEM ALONG ON THIS. WE CAN OF COURSE APPROACH THE SOVIETS OURSELVES BUT WE THINK IT WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE IF THE LEBANESE AND OTHER ARAB STATES, AND PERHAPS THE FRENCH, WERE TO DO THIS FIRST.

4. IN COORDINATION WITH FRENCH MISSION, USUN SHOULD RAISE FINANCING ISSUE WITH LEBANESE PERM REP TUENI AND
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SEEK ACTIVE LEBANESE SUPPORT FOR OUR EFFORTS TO ENSURE COLLECTIVE FINANCING. POINT SHOULD BE MADE THAT IF THIS PRINCIPLE IS NOT ESTABLISHED FROM THE OUTSET, VIABILITY OF UNIFIL WILL BE PLACED IN QUESTION AND TROOP CONTRIBUTORS WILL BE RELUCTANT TO MAKE NEW COMMITMENTS. COOPER

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